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THE URBAN DISTRICT OF  
WIMBORNE MINSTER

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH - YEAR 1954.





Public Health Department,  
Civic Centre,  
Wimborne.

TO:-

The Chairman and Councillors of the Wimborne Minster Urban  
District Council:-

I have the honour to submit for your information and  
consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances  
of the Urban District of Wimborne. The report is presented as follows:-

- A. Vital Statistics.
- B. General Provisions of Health Services in Area.
- C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area:-
  - 1. Water.
  - 2. Sewerage.
  - 3. Refuse collection and Salvage.
  - 4. Rodent Control.
  - 5. Nuisances.
- D. Housing.
- E. Factories and Workshops.
- F. Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- G. Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and  
members of the Council for their kindness and consideration. I have  
much appreciated the help and co-operation given to me by the staff of  
the public health department, officials in other departments and by my  
professional colleagues in practice in the area.

JULY, 1955.

J.B.M. Mayes.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



THE URBAN DISTRICT OF WIMBORNE.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN:--

Dr. E.H. Markby

VICE-CHAIRMAN:--

F.W.J. Moore.

COUNCILLORS:--


C.H. Cowdry	F. O. Day
+ S.I. Dennett.	W. T. Elcock.
+ H.C. M. Harvey	+ K. B. J. Joyner.
+ A.R. Maiden.	+ L. S. D. Neate.
Lt. Col. W.H.B. Ray.	Miss M. C. Richar

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All members of the Council attend the General Purposes Committee and those names marked with asterisk attend Health and Transport Committees. Both Committees deal with matters of public health.

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J.B.M. Mayes, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR with combined duties as SURVEYOR.

A.H.E. Gellender. M.R.S.I.

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The Medical Officer of Health holds in addition the following appointments:-

Medical Officer of Health to the Wimborne and Cranborne Rural District.

Medical Officer of Health to the Borough of Blandford.

Medical Officer of Health to the Blandford Rural District.

School Medical Officer and Assistant Medical Officer to the Dorset County Council.

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Office accommodation and clerical assistance is provided for the Medical Officer of Health jointly by the Authorities concerned.

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SECTION    A

GENERAL    STATISTICS

Area of district.....653 acres.  
Population estimated by Registrar General.....4480  
Total number of inhabited houses as at 31/12/54.....1450  
Rateable value at 1st April, 1954.....£34, 666  
Sum represented by penny rate..... £140

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SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS  
FOR THE YEAR.

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Total registered.....	62	28	34
Legitimate.....	60	26	34
Illegitimate.....	2	2	-
 <u>Stillbirths.</u>			
Total registered.....	1	-	1
Legitimate.....	1	-	1
 <u>Deaths</u>			
Total registered.....	80	37	43

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<u>Comparative Statistics</u> (Where available)	<u>Wimborne</u>	<u>England and Wales.</u>
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated home population.	13.84	15.28
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated home population using comparability factor.....	15.91	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births).....	15.87.	23.37
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated home population.....	17.86	11.3
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated home population, using comparability factor.....	12.14	
Death Rate of infants under one year of age, per 1,000 related live births.....	Nil	25.5.

Causes of Death during the  
year - 1954.  
(Supplied by the Registrar-General)

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant neoplasm of bronchus.....	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm of breast.....	-	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.....	5	7	12
Leukaemia.....	1	-	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system.....	5	6	11
Coronary diseases - angina.....	6	6	12
Hypertension with heart disease.....	0	1	1
Other heart diseases.....	3	7	10
Other circulatory diseases.....	5	10	15
Pneumonia.....	1	-	1
Bronchitis.....	2	-	2
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	2	-	2
Nephritis or Nephrosis.....	2	-	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	1	3	4
Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	-	1
Suicide.....	1	1	2





## COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

### Births.

The number of children born this year was 62. Four less than in 1953 and 1952.

The live birth rate, using the comparability factor compares favourably with that of England and Wales and is a fraction lower than last year.

### Deaths

Fewer persons died in 1954 compared with 1953. 80 in 1954, 103 in 1953 and 55 in 1952, and of these 80, 21 males and 32 females were over 70 years of age. There was nothing unusual in the cause of death and there were no deaths from diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, scarlet fever, poliomyelitis, nor from meningococcal infection. There were no maternal deaths.

In 1954, no child died under one year of age.

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The comparability factor is worked out for each district by the Registrar General. The purpose of this factor is to level out the differences of age and sex constitution of the population of the various districts and enable more accurate comparisons to be made of birth and death rates in other areas.

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## SECTION B

### PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

The Public Health Laboratories at Boscombe and Dorchester continue to give the district generous service. The Laboratories undertake the bacteriological examination of water, milk, ice cream and other foods. It also examines specimens for diagnosis in the case of infectious or suspected infectious diseases.

### AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Ambulance Service of the district is under the jurisdiction on the County Council, operating day and night from the Civic Centre.

### WELFARE CENTRE

The County Council provide an Infant Welfare Centre at the Womens' Institute Hall every Tuesday.

### DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

A Domestic Help Service is provided by the County Council and has continued to give good service in the district. There has been a steady increase in the demand for the Service in the past year, the increase is mostly assistance given to old people and maternity work.

### ANTE NATAL CLINIC

The County Council provide an Ante Natal Clinic. This is held in the Womens' Institute Hall on the second and fourth Tuesday in each month.





SECTION      C  
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY

The Bournemouth Water Company is the statutory water undertaker for the area. The majority of the water is derived from a deep well situated at Walford, near Wimborne. It is chlorinated and softened. 10 samples of main water taken for bacteriological analysis have given highly satisfactory results.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

After consultation with the Council's Consulting Engineers and the Sanitary Engineer of the Dorset County Council, the Council instructed their Engineers to revise the proposed scheme of main drainage for the whole of the town with a view to sewers being laid as far as practicable, behind properties so as to facilitate the connections.

The revised Scheme was considered and approved by the Council in November, 1954, and was immediately submitted to the Dorset County Council. In December, representatives of both Councils discussed the grant to be made by the County Council towards the cost of the Scheme and agreement was reached for consideration by the County Council at their quarterly meeting in February, 1955.

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CESSPOOLS AND SEPTIC TANKS

The Council undertake to empty free of charge once in three months, and the number emptied during 1954 was 386.

PAIL CLOSETS.

There are 738 properties served by pail closets. These are emptied twice a week by the Council's workmen. There are five food premises and twenty-seven houses through which these pails have to be carried.

The sewage collected is taken three and a half miles to Ferndown, deposited in deep pits and covered with soil after the contents have settled.

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REFUSE COLLECTION AND SALVAGE.

Weekly collections are made by the Council and the refuse is disposed of by incineration at Poole. During the year, 37 tons of waste paper were sold.

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SECTION D  
HOUSING

Number of Council Houses completed pre-war.....	122
Number of Council Houses completed post-war.....	119
Number of Council Houses and Bungalows constructed and completed in 1954.....	Nil
Private enterprise.....	3

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SECTION E  
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number of factories registered.....	45
Number of inspections.....	46

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Factories Act 1937 and 1948 - Part One of the Act.

	<u>Number on</u> <u>Register.</u>	<u>Inspection.</u>
1. Factories in which no mechanical power is used.....	14	14
2. Factories in which mechanical power is used.....	30	32
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Excluding outworkers' premises).....	1	Nil

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OUTWORKERS

During the year, two outworkers were employed in the district. No infectious disease occurred in either of the premises where these outworkers resided.

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SECTION F  
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

Number of Registered Ice Cream Premises..... 21

Number of samples taken..... 28

Provisional Grade 1.... 27  
Provisional Grade 2.... Nil  
Provisional Grade 3.... Nil  
Provisional Grade 4.... 1

Provisional Grades of Ice Cream

<u>Provisional Grade.</u>	<u>Time taken to reduce methylene blue.</u>
1.	$4\frac{1}{2}$ hours or more
2.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 hours
3.	$\frac{1}{2}$ - 2 hours
4.	0

NOTE:- Judgement should be based on a series of samples . It is suggested that over a six monthly period, 50 per cent of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80 per cent into Grades 1 and 2, not more than 20 per cent into Grade 2 and none into Grade 4.

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FOOD PREMISES.

Number of food premises visited..... 12  
Number of visits..... 12

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949

Number of Registered Dairies in area..... 1

DEALERS' LICENCES.

Tuberculin tested..... 2  
Pasteurised..... 2

SUPPLEMENTARY LICENCES.

Tuberculin tested..... 3  
Pasteurised..... 4

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The Sampling Officers of the County Council and the Sanitary Inspector have taken 37 routine samples of milk from distributors supplying the area.

Tuberculin Tested Milk

7 samples were taken.

5 satisfactory, 2 unsatisfactory.

Pasteurised

30 samples were taken.

All satisfactory.

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Methylene Blue Test.

The Public Health Laboratory used the methylene blue reduction test which indicates the keeping quality of milk by the time taken to reduce methylene blue under defined conditions.

Phosphatase Test.

This test is officially applied to pasteurised milk in order to determine whether the milk has been satisfactorily heat-treated.

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Condemnation Certificates were issued in respect of the following goods:-

English Meat.....	39 lbs
Imported Meat.....	31 lbs.
Tinned Meat.....	37 lbs
Other tinned foods.	164

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SECTION F  
PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Infectious diseases notified during the year:-

Whooping cough.....	52
Scarlet fever.....	2
Tuberculosis.....	4
Paratyphoid B.....	1

Number of cases on Tuberculosis Register at 31/12/54:-

Pulmonary.....	16.	Non Pulmonary.....	6
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There were four new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year.  
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There has been no outbreak of food poisoning during the year.

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AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

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	<u>Under</u> <u>One.</u>	<u>1 - 2</u>	<u>3 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 9</u>	<u>10 - 14</u>	<u>15-24</u>	<u>Over</u> <u>25</u>
Whooping cough.	3	9	8	30		1	1
Scarlet fever.				1	1		
Tuberculosis.						2	2
Paratyphoid B.					1		

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